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MUCH DAMAGE TO FRUIT REPORTED

IN UPPER OHIO VALLEY AND UPPER APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN REGIONS.

COTTON ADVANCES IN SECTIONS

Apparently Not Much Injury Was Done in the North Carolina Peach Producing Belt.

Washington. — Much damage was done to fruit in the upper Ohio valley and central and northern Appalachian mountain localities by the recent severe frost and freezing temperatures, the weather bureau said in its weekly weather and crop review.

"The full extent of damage cannot be definitely stated at this time," the bureau said in the review—the first official estimate issued since the cold wave. "Reports at hand, however, indicate that it was greatest in the mountain sections of Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania. The destruction was not so nearly complete, nor so extensive geographically, as was caused by the freeze of last year, which occurred the latter part of March. It is noted that this year's fruit bloom was unusually heavy and a large proportion could be destroyed on the heavily laden trees with sufficient remaining to produce a fair yield of better quality.

"The greater part of the fruit appears to have been killed over a few extreme northwestern counties in Virginia, with progressively less damage southward in the state, but extending well into the central counties.

"Apparently not much injury was done in the heavy peach producing belt of North Carolina, but some fruit was frosted in the northern and western portions of the state."

Moisture conditions, however, the review said, were favorable in most of the southern states for planting cotton, although the soil was too wet for satisfactory progress in a few localities, especially in the northern portions of Georgia and Alabama. Work was interrupted in the northwestern portion of the belt by the general rains the latter part of the week.

Planting of cotton made excellent progress in Texas and extended to the extreme northwestern portion of the cotton growing area. "The nights were too cool, however, for rapid germination in most sections of the belt, although the early planted cotton that is up made fairly good progress. In eastern districts the crop has advanced to the stage where it is ready to chop out in sections of the coastal plains of South Carolina, while chopping progressed favorably in the more southeastern districts. Late planted cotton is germinating slowly in Florida.

Anastase and Bride in Trouble. New York. — Anastase Andrevitch Vonsiatzky-Vonsiatzky, 23-year-old worker employed by the Baldwin Locomotive Works, and his 47-year-old bride, formerly the wealthy Mrs. Marion B. Ream-Stephens, of Chicago, were in New York to consult their attorney, Clarence Blair Mitchell, regarding a sequel to their marriage, which created quite a stir in social circles when it was performed last February at the Russian cathedral in this city.

The sequel, which broke in upon the Vonsiatzky-Vonsiatzky's privacy after they had taken up their residence in Ridley Park, near Philadelphia, developed from Paris. Cable dispatches quoted a woman claiming to have wed Vonsiatzky-Vonsiatzky in the Russian cathedral at Yalta in the Crimea in 1920, although the claim has been made that it was illegal because the bride never had been baptized. She was alleged to have asked the Russian Catholic metropolitan in America to investigate the ceremony performed here.

Efforts to reach the metropolitan have proved fruitless. The bridegroom declined to talk.

Orders Arrest of All Adult Persons. Manchester, Ky.—The arrest of every person over 12 years of age in the Mill Creek neighborhood of Clay county has been ordered by Circuit Judge Elmer J. Johnson in an effort to break up lawlessness which culminated last week in the ambushing of county officers who went into the district to arrest moonshiners. Two hundred warrants were issued by Judge Johnson and orders were given to constables all high-powered rifles and handguns.

FORMER PRESIDENT OF FRANCE DEAD

DIES OF PNEUMONIA FOLLOWING ILLNESS OF LESS THAN A WEEK.

PREMIER POINCARÉ CALLS

Was Forced to Resign the Presidency Owing to a Sudden Breakdown.

Paris. — Paul Deschanel, former President of France, died after an illness of less than a week.

The passing of M. Deschanel, who for many years had been prominent in the political life of France, caused widespread sorrow. His friends had hoped for his recovery, when the physicians in attendance announced that he could not survive. Mme. Deschanel was at the bedside when her husband died.

The former President's eagerness to be up and doing, notwithstanding his long weakened condition, played an important part in the hastening of his death. He insisted last week on leaving his residence before he had completely recovered from a cold. There was a relapse and double pneumonia developed.

Premier Poincaré was among the first persons to call at the Deschanel residence after the death of the statesman to express the sympathy of the French government.

Paul Eugene Louis Deschanel, the tenth President of France, entered upon a seven-year term in that office on February 19, 1920, after having been chosen by the national assembly the preceding January by the biggest majority since the election of Thiers, the first President of the present republic. Statesman and author and one of the most brilliant public speakers in France, M. Deschanel's political triumph marked the retirement from public life of former Premier Georges Clemenceau.

The campaign had been most sensational and bitter, M. Clemenceau, then at the height of his power as the French war premier and one of the negotiators of the treaty with Germany, was up until a few days before the election, believed to be the only candidate who had a chance for the office. Catholic and Socialist votes in the French Parliament, however, combined with those of the political enemies of the "Tiger" and elected Deschanel. A few months later, when Deschanel had been forced by illness to resign, "The Tiger" was asked if he again would permit his name to be used as a candidate for the presidency.

"I was too old to be elected last January," he replied ironically, "and I feel too young to accept now, in case I was chosen. I am going into India's jungles to hunt tigers, which is much less dangerous than French politics."

Lord and Lady Astor in Washington. Washington.—Lord and Lady Astor came to Washington, were guests at a luncheon at the capitol, spoke at the National Press club and later in the day attended a reception given by Mrs. Charles E. Hughes at the Pan-American building for the Pan-American conference of women. They attended a meeting at Continental memorial hall for the Pan-American women's conference, at which the speakers were Secretary Hughes and members of the diplomatic corps.

From the time of her arrival Lady Astor was the center of admiring groups. After the luncheon at the capitol she was the guest of Senator Swanson of Virginia.

Three Officers Slain. Beardstown, Ill.—Sheriff Ed Leahbrook, of Rushville, and two deputies were killed in a fight with Greek section hands near here. Thirty-eight of the maintenance of way workers were arrested as they entered Beardstown on a train and efforts immediately were started to have them bound over to the grand jury on murder charges because of the high feeling over the officer's death.

Patterson Heads Publishers' Body. New York.—Paul Patterson, of the Baltimore Sun was elected president of the American Newspaper Publishers' association at the final session of its convention.

Other officers elected were: Vice-President, S. E. Thomason, Chicago Tribune, secretary, John S. Bryant, Richmond News-Leader; treasurer, Howard Davis, New York Tribune, news directors, T. R. Williams, Pittsburgh Press; Harry Chandler, Los Angeles Times; Charles H. Taylor, Boston Globe, and Frank G. Bell.

SLIGHT INCREASE IN EXPORTS OF COTTON

Washington.—Cotton exports increased slightly during March as compared with the same month last year, according to foreign trade reports issued here by the commerce department.

Cotton exports for the month aggregated 461,000 bales valued at \$43,000,000 compared with 757,000 bales worth \$27,000,000 in March a year ago, while for the nine months ended with March cotton exports totaled 5,000,000 bales valued at \$442,000,000 as against 4,000,000 bales worth \$518,000,000 during the corresponding nine months of 1921.

FLOOD STRIKES FORT WORTH

SEVENTEEN PROBABLY DEAD AND PROPERTY DAMAGE ESTIMATED AT MILLION.

Scores of Residences and Small Buildings Swept Away; Streets Inundated.

Fort Worth, Texas.—John J. McCain, Fort Worth city engineer, issued a statement in which he declared the levees around the rivers, which broke here and flooded lowlands of this city, were "dynamited by unknown parties," and that an investigation by a grand jury would be demanded immediately. Seventeen probably dead and property damage estimated at approximately one million dollars is the toll of a flood which swept Fort Worth, carrying before it scores of residences and small buildings, overflowing hundreds of acres of land and inundating several city streets.

The estimate of possibly 17 dead was made by Major L. G. White, in charge of Red Cross relief.

The flood was confined chiefly to the lowlands adjoining the tributaries of the Trinity river. Marine, Sycamore, Clearforks and the Trinity river were swollen, overflowing the bottoms nearby.

The flood is the most severe in the city, according to old-time residents.

Coming on the heels of rain, the heaviest in the history of Fort Worth, and a wind and electrical storm, the flood took scores of people by surprise. The lowlands adjoining Sycamore creek were the first to suffer, and at one time water was standing level with the roofs of residences.

Word reaching here from points to the north of Fort Worth indicates that a further rise of the water is expected. Rescue workers are laboring tirelessly in bringing relief to flood sufferers.

With boiler rooms of the city power and light plant flooded, residential Fort Worth is spending a night in darkness.

With the city facing a night of darkness, 500 members of the American Legion were patrolling the streets, augmenting the police force.

Many highways were covered with water, cutting off traffic.

"It is our opinion that the levee did not break of its own accord, but was dynamited, and as soon as the situation is relieved, we are going to place the facts before the grand jury and demand an investigation," McCain declared.

Aeronautical Problems Being Solved. Washington. — Aeronautical problems which have baffled the best minds of the scientific world are being solved with marked success through experiments in the laboratories at Langley Field, Virginia, under the direction of the national advisory committee for aeronautics. Joseph A. Ames, chairman of the executive committee, declared in an address at the concluding session of the National Academy of Sciences.

There are three outstanding problems in aeronautics, Dr. Ames said, those involving the discovery of a substitute for the gasoline engine, determination of the shape and section of a wing which will improve the performance of an airplane and the replacement of the ordinary experiment on models of airplanes or their parts by a method giving complete information concerning full sized machines.

To Pay Acceptances. New York.—The Cuban Cane Sugar corporation announced that \$7,000,000 of acceptances maturing May 1, will be paid. The original amount of \$18,000,000 was reduced last October to \$12,500,000 and in January another payment of \$4,500,000 was made. Officials of the Cuban Cane corporation would not discuss industrial conditions in the Antilles, but the recent trend of the raw and refined sugar markets point to marked recuperation from last year's severe depression.

20 INDICTED WITH MORSE AND SONS

CHARGED WITH HAVING USED THE MAILS TO DEFAUD INVESTORS.

ADVERTISING THROUGH MAILS

William A. Barber, Former Attorney General of South Carolina, Among the Accused.

New York.—Charles W. Morse, New York financier, and his three sons and twenty others, some prominent in shipping, legal and brokerage circles, were accused in a federal indictment with having used the mails to defraud investors in the stocks of various steamship companies.

The aggregate authorized capital of the sundry corporations ran into scores of millions of dollars, and included the United States Steamship company and its subsidiaries, United States Transport company, Inc., and the holding organization known as the United States Shipping corporation.

The "principal defendants," charged with conspiring since May, 1919, to defraud investors and put their alleged swindling scheme into effect by use of advertising matter, sent through the mails, included:

Charles W. Morse and his sons, Erwin A., Benjamin W. and Harry F. Morse.

Martin J. Gillen, formerly assistant to the chairman of the United States shipping board.

William A. Barber, former attorney general of South Carolina.

Mark L. Gilbert, former president of Shipping, Construction and Trading company, Stonington, Conn.

George M. Burdett, attorney for the Morse enterprises.

Richard O. White, of New York, former president of the United States Transport company.

Stuart G. Gibboney, lawyer.

Glenhard S. Foster, Orange N. J., former head of G. S. Foster & Co., curb brokers.

These men, the indictment alleged, have since May, 1919, conspired to defraud investors with a view to their own profit by divers schemes and artifices.

Among these were alleged misrepresentation in advertising that the United States Steamship company, with an authorized capital of \$25,000,000, and its underlying companies, such as the Croton Iron Works, Virginia Shipbuilding company and the Hudson Navigation company, were going concerns with large contracts, both governmental and private, for building and repairing ships and carrying freight, and that they were paying bona fide dividends and were backed by valuable assets, and that therefore, to buy stocks in these organizations would prove profitable to investors both in speculations and dividends.

The contracts were not as represented, the grand jurors alleged; nor were the assets, and the companies were not paying dividends. The indictment charged that the defendants knew the investors had been precluded some profiting by their own mismanagement.

The "principal defendants" knew when they sent 1,000 letters through the mail, the indictment alleged, that the assets and prospects of the companies were not as valuable as represented.

300 Miles on Gallon of Fuel. Syracuse, N. Y. — Three hundred miles by an automobile on a gallon of fuel costing five and one-half cents, is the claim H. H. Elmer, treasurer and special manager of the Globe Malleable Iron and Steel company, of this city, makes for an engine designed by himself, revealed to the directorate of the company at its annual meeting here.

Internationally known engineering experts, including Arthur West, the chief engineer of the Bethlehem Steel corporation, have inspected Mr. Elmer's engine and are said to have pronounced it hundreds of years ahead of time.

Use Clover to End Dust Cloud. Mexico City.—After years of experimenting in an effort to stop the dense clouds of dust which sweep down on Mexico City at certain regular periods, the Department of Agriculture has decided to plant clover and alfalfa in the bed of Lake Texcoco, a lake bed near the capital which has been dry for several years.

Agricultural experts believe well cultivated verdure will invite moisture in greater quantities and will prevent the dust from rising in the driest seasons.

CONDENSED NEWS FROM THE OLD NORTH STATE

SHORT NOTES OF INTEREST TO CAROLINIANS.

WILL COMBAT ANY RATE INCREASES

NORTH CAROLINA TRAFFIC ASSOCIATION PREPARES FOR HEARING.

PLEDGE \$3,000 FOR FIGHT

Interstate Commerce Commission Will Meet in Atlanta May 27th to Investigate Freight Rates.

Raleigh. Meeting in the state capitol, the North Carolina Traffic association took definite action to combat any rate increases which might result from the interstate commerce commission hearing in Atlanta the 27th of May on the investigation of freight rates for the southern states.

"Investigation means discrimination in the form of higher rates," said M. R. Beaman, secretary of the association, "we shall do everything in our power to prevent an investigation of North Carolina rates." In less than three minutes the gathering pledged upward of three thousand dollars to carry on the fight.

The chief speaker was James S. Griffin, attorney for the association, who outlined the achievements and aims of the association and scored those individuals and organizations which had attempted to block its work.

Mr. C. H. Ireland, of Greensboro, the president of the association, opened the meeting at 2 o'clock in the house of representatives in the capitol. He spoke briefly on the achievements of the traffic association, and said, "There is not a jobber in North Carolina today who does not command the trade of his neighborhood solely from the benefits he derives from the activities of the North Carolina Traffic association."

He told how the battle for lower classification rates had been won, but how the fight for lower commodity rate is the thing with which every jobber is particularly concerned," he said. "To put off a reduction of the commodity rate in North Carolina for two years would cost the state two million dollars."

Organization and co-operation was stressed by Mr. Ireland. "It is all a matter of whether we are willing to strive shoulder to shoulder," he concluded.

Patterson Warns Tobacco Growers.

Warning of the danger of an over-production of tobacco, Richard R. Patterson, general manager of the leaf department of the Tobacco Growers' Co-operative association, pointed out some errors to be avoided by the 70,000 organized growers of Virginia and North Carolina.

"The fundamental means of success as individuals and an association at present is to make good tobacco," said Mr. Patterson.

"This is especially important with the present small demand for low grades and the continued world demand for medium and higher grade tobaccos suitable for cigarette purposes.

"The world consumption of bright flue-cured tobaccos is approximately 400,000,000 pounds a year. You can readily see that it is to the advantage of the association to avoid as far as possible an over-production, which would mean that we might have to carry over the surplus.

"There was produced in 1920 around 600,000,000 pounds of bright flue-cured tobacco in Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia. The 1921 crop, which we have just finished selling, in round figures, was 425,000,000 pounds, which brought an average price of \$21.40.

"Eastern Carolina produced 155,000,000 pounds and the Virginia-Carolina oil belt, 185,000,000 pounds.

"There was a great quantity of the old belt types which sold at a very low figure, due to the fact that there was no market for it.

"If we have favorable seasons and the proper care taken of the growing crops, we will not be placed in the position of having to dispose of a large percentage of low-grade types for which there is scarcely any demand."

Hillsboro Loses in Highway Fight.

Oxford (Special).—Hillsboro lost its fight against the state highway commission here when Judge John H. Kerr declined to grant the town a temporary injunction, restraining the commission from building the Central highway along Churton street instead of King street.

In the decision of Judge Kerr the highway commission won a victory; that Chairman Page declared several months ago must determine whether the commission or the courts would build the roads in North Carolina.

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